

Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME II/ISSUE I

FEB/MAR 2009



CITY OF
SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY



Councilmember Kansen Chu visits "Holiday in Berryessa" event sponsored by the North Valley Community Assn.



Councilmember Kansen Chu and wife Daisy kick-off the Lunar New Year Celebration at City Hall.



Councilmember Chu with Santa Visits Alviso Foundation, this year's District 4 Honoree at the 2009 State of the City Address.

Door-to-Door in District 4 Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

As the City begins discussions regarding next year's budget, I want to keep you up-to-date on what the City is doing and encourage District 4 residents to learn about and provide input on the 2009-2010 Budget. It is important to understand why there's a structural deficit and how the budget shortfall will have an effect on your basic services. *(Please see page 5 for more information.)*

In the near future there will be meetings to present budget priorities and updates citywide and my office will send information as they become available. In addition, there will be a series of public meetings and study sessions where the City Council will discuss the upcoming year's budget and priorities. I encourage you to visit the District 4 website frequently for the latest news and updates.

I am interested in hearing your thoughts, concerns, and priorities for the upcoming budget year. Your feedback will give me valuable insight during the budget process as I work with my colleagues on the City Council. Please email all comments, feedback, and questions to my office at district4@sanjoseca.gov.

Best Regards,



In this Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Neighborhood Spotlight
- How to Get Involved
- Budget Updates
- Volunteer for the Great American Litter Pick-Up

Sign up for regular email updates from District 4

Email district4@sanjoseca.gov so you can be added to the email list.

Kansen's Blog: www.kansenchu.com/blog

District 4 Website: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4>

DISTRICT 4 OFFICE

Council District 4, 18th Floor
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113
Telephone: (408) 535-4904
Fax: (408) 292-6459



COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

Councilmember Kansen Chu invites you to attend Community Office Hours in order to get feedback and provide assistance to residents. Staff will also be on hand to assist in handling questions and concerns from residents. If you wish to make an appointment to meet with Councilmember Chu on any of the listed dates, please call the office at (408) 535-4904.

A Message from the City Auditor

The City of San José's "Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report 2007-2008, an Annual Report on City Government Performance" is now available for viewing.



This report provides the public with information on the performance of government programs and is intended to be informational. It provides cost, workload and performance data for City services. It includes five-year historical trends, and the results of a biennial survey conducted in December 2007 asking residents to rate City's services as well as the overall quality of life.

The report's purpose is to improve government transparency and accountability, provide consolidated performance information to the public, and allow informed decision-making by City officials, staff, and the public. The report is available at: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/auditor/AuditReports/0901/0901.pdf>

COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS DATES AND LOCATIONS

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 11

Berryessa Branch Library

Study Room C

6:00PM-8:00PM

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 28

Berryessa Branch Library

Community Room

10:00AM-12:00PM

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 11

Berryessa Branch Library

Study Room C

6:00PM-8:00PM

SATURDAY

MARCH 28

Starbucks @ River Oaks

670 River Oaks Parkway

10:00AM-12:00PM

Dates & locations subject to change.

SAN JOSE MAIN POST OFFICE RENAMED AFTER GORDON N. CHAN



Last year, I supported Congressman Mike Honda by bringing a resolution to the City Council to rename the San José Main Post Office in honor of community leader Gordon N. Chan. On February 18, 2009, the official dedication ceremony was held at the Post Office. I would like to thank the following community members who wrote to the City Council encouraging the City to support the resolution: Overfelt Chinese Cultural Gardens, Asian Americans for Community Involvement, Dr. Rodney Lum, Rose Whitcomb, and many more.

To read more about this, please visit my blog: www.kansenchu.com/blog.



Neighborhood Groups

Alviso Water Taskforce

Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6PM at the Alviso Community Center
www.alvisowater.org

Contact: alvisowater@gmail.com

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Meets every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center

Contact: Mike Flaughner
mikeflaughner@yahoo.com

Independence High Neighborhood Association

Meets every 3rd Monday of the Month at 7PM Location TBA

Contact: Dale Warner
ihna@dalewarner.com

North Valley Community Association

Meets every 1st Monday of the Month at 7PM Location TBA

Contact: Karen Navas
kn_nca@yahoo.com

To Subscribe to the Listserve, Please send an email to:
NorthValleyCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Piedmont Hostetter Neighborhood Association

Meets quarterly at 6:30PM at the Berryessa Union School District Board Room

Contact: Cheryl VanZuylen
Cheryl_vanzuylen@yahoo.com

River Oaks Neighborhood Association

Meets every odd month Location TBA

Contact: Jean Marlowe
jean@jeanmarlowe.com

Townsend Park Neighborhood Association

Meets twice yearly Location TBA

Contact: Lori Wallace
lori_wp@yahoo.com

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Townsend Park Neighborhood



Townsend Park

Residents from the Townsend Park neighborhood emerged as community leaders of District 4 through their formation of a group in 2007 to address the issue of constructing restrooms at Townsend Park. Last fall, two community meetings took place to discuss the possibility of this issue. I was very impressed by the turnout, strength, and emotion of this community over this issue and suggested that they should use their energy to form a neighborhood association to work together to improve the lives of their community.

My office worked with Bonnie Montgomery from the beginning to explore the concept of establishing a neighborhood association. Since then, Lori Wallace and David Biagini have taken the lead and have been working very hard over the past year to get the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association together. I would like to take this time to commend all of them for their efforts.

The Townsend Park Neighborhood Association has formed to give residents a voice on issues of neighborhood enhancement and preservation in addition to fostering a greater sense of community. In addition to getting to know their neighbors and establishing a greater community network, they are in the process of creating a neighborhood watch group.

Since the formation of the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association, David Biagini has proven to be an active voice and advocate for his neighborhood. On May 31, 2008, David was selected at a neighborhood caucus to be one of the three representatives from District 4 to serve on the City of San José's Neighborhood Commission.

This has been a long process but the hard work and dedication of the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association will help make a positive impact on the lives of their neighborhood.



Last year's
Northwood Elementary
After-School Program
volunteers with
Kim Gomez.



To volunteer for Northwood Adopt-A-Park Program or adopt your own park, please email me at district4@sanjoseca.gov

NORTH VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES NORTHWOOD ADOPT-A-PARK 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This February, NVCA's Adopt-A-Park project celebrates its 5 year anniversary. This project is the longest continuous project for NVCA. The project was first envisioned by Amber Henderson in 2004 and has since been successfully led by Michael Cruz and passed to Kim Gomez, who currently coordinates this project today. These project leaders have given our residents, especially the students, a chance to make a positive impact in their community.

On every 3rd Sunday of the month, community members gather at Northwood Park to pick up litter and beautify the park, streets, and playgrounds surrounding Northwood Elementary. Also, twice a month during the school year, students from Northwood's after-school program contribute by beautifying their school. This dedication has earned the program distinctions including the Adopt-A-Park Clean Up Award from the City of San José in 2006 and the Cleanest School Award in 2005.

I would like to thank and congratulate North Valley Community Association, Kim Gomez, Principal Patty McDonald from Northwood Elementary & all the volunteers for their ongoing efforts to maintain this thriving program, and engaging our neighbors to contribute to the beautification of our neighborhoods.



Your San José Police Department Captains

San José Police Department

Foothill Division Captain

Captain Ernesto Alcantar

ernesto.alcantar@sanjoseca.gov

Central Division Captain

Captain Phan Ngo

phan.ngo@sanjoseca.gov



Councilmember Chu with Captain Alcantar at the Gang Prevention Training for Parents in District 4.



CITY OF SAN JOSE BUDGET UPDATES

Each year, the City of San José must develop a budget plan that addresses and reflects the needs of the City's diverse communities. As we begin the budget planning process for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, I encourage residents to help the City understand your needs and priorities by sharing with us your thoughts on how we should create a balanced budget that addresses the fundamental issues of our City while remaining fiscally responsible. The City of San José continues to face significant and enduring fiscal challenges and will need to make up a \$65 million shortfall to balance the budget for the fiscal year beginning in July. Unfortunately, after 7 years of budget cuts, the City is now facing employee layoffs and service cuts in order to balance the budget.

For the past few years, the City of San José has engaged in several opportunities to solicit early community input in the budget process. In January, the City conducted a public survey and organized a conference on priorities with neighborhood leaders in order to provide input and feedback on their budget priorities. On Saturday, January 24, 2009, neighborhood associations in the City of San José were invited to participate in the City's 2009 Neighborhood Association Priority Setting Session at City Hall. Neighborhood leaders



participated in an exercise where they were "City Manager for a Day" & were asked to review preliminary budget proposals from departments, in an effort to balance the \$65 million deficit for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

District 4 had five representatives at the event, I would like to thank the following for taking time out of their busy schedules to provide feedback to the City:

Mike Bennett (Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council), **David Biagini** (Townsend Park Neighborhood Association), **Betty Brown** (Alviso Neighborhood), **Lorna Chang** (Piedmont Hostetter Neighborhood Association), and **Chris Zhou** (North Valley Community Association). Feedback from the Neighborhood Priority Setting Session will assist the City Council in

determining what the priorities should be for the City.

In the coming months, there will be a series of public meetings and study sessions where the Mayor and City Council will discuss the budget. The schedule for the Study Sessions and Public Hearings is available on my website at www.sanjoseca.gov/district4. Your comments are important to me. Please feel free to email me at district4@sanjoseca.gov to let me know what is important for you. Session at City Hall.

GREAT AMERICAN LITTER PICK-UP 2009

Last year, District 4 received the distinction of having the largest volunteer turnout in the City of San José! District 4 could not have accomplished this without your help. Send an email to district4@sanjoseca.gov with an intent to volunteer for this year's Great American Litter Pick-Up on April 25, 2009 at the Berryessa Community Center and the Alviso Youth Center. Let's make this year's Great American Litter Pick-Up bigger than ever!





City & Community Contacts

City Hall Call Center

(408) 535-3500

Abandoned Vehicles

(408) 277-5305

Alviso Branch Library

(408) 263-3626

Alviso Youth Center

(408) 586-7624

Anti-Graffiti & Litter

(408) 277-2758

Berryessa Branch Library

(408) 808-3050

Berryessa Community &

Senior Center

(408) 251-6392

Berryessa Youth Center

(408) 262-1014

Code Enforcement

(408) 277-4528

Crime Prevention

(408) 277-4133

Garbage & Recycling

(408) 535-3515

Parks & Recreation

(408) 535-3570

Sidewalk Repair

(408) 277-3158

Street Lights

(408) 277-5517

Street Sweeping

(408) 277-2571

Tree Trimming & Removal

(408) 277-2756

Meet the District 4 Team



Edesa Bitbadal, Chief of Staff

edesa.bitbadal@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Land Use, North San José Neighborhood, Redevelopment, Neighborhoods Commission, Media Relations, Economic Development, Office Technology, and Personnel.

COMMITTEES

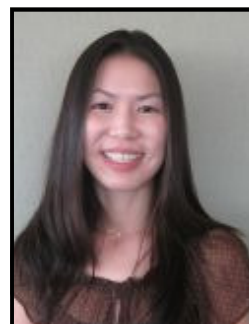
Rules & Open Government, Community & Economic Development

Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant

margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Councilmember Scheduling, Office Administration, Constituent Services, and Event Planning.



Stephanie Fong, Policy Analyst

stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Budget, Sister Cities, Parks & Recreation, Seniors, Youth, Disability, Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Clean-ups, Web Content, and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services & Education.

Kathy Duong, Policy Analyst

kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

North Valley Neighborhood, Land Use, Public Safety, Housing, Airport, Economic Development, Human Rights, Childcare, Newsletter, Code Enforcement, Web Content and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Community & Economic Development, Transportation & Environment



Iris Zheng, Council Assistant

iris.zheng@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Alviso Neighborhood, Transportation, Public Safety, Community Outreach, Code Enforcement and Constituent Services.



District 4 Events

For up-to-date event information, visit sanjoseca.gov/district4 and email district4@sanjoseca.gov to receive e-Notices.

FEBRUARY

9 2ND ANNUAL LUNAR
NEW YEAR CELEBRATION
11:30AM-1:30PM
San José City Hall
Wing Rooms 118-120
200 E. Santa Clara Street

9 BERRYESSA CITIZENS
ADVISORY COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING
Occurs every 2nd Monday
7:00PM
Berryessa Community Ctr
3050 Berryessa Road

14 LUNAR NEW YEAR EVENT
1:00PM-5:00PM
Berryessa Branch Library
Community Room
3355 Noble Avenue



Councilmember Chu with District 4 SJP Captain Ngo.



Fire Engine 19 visits Majestic Way students at the Berryessa Creek Park Playground event.

17 AMGEN TOUR OF
CALIFORNIA
Stage 3 from San José to
Modesto
Approximately 12:00PM
Start line on Almaden Blvd &
Market Street

21 EWASTE RECYCLING EVENT
Orchard District School
9:00AM-3:00PM
Orchard District School
921 Fox Lane
All proceeds from donated items
to benefit Orchard School

MARCH

2 NORTH VALLEY
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING
Occurs every other 1st Monday
7:00PM
Berryessa Union School District
3050 Berryessa Road

9 GREEN VISION
STUDY SESSION
1:30PM-5:00PM
City Hall Council Chambers
Watch online at
www.sanjoseca.gov or on
Local Cable Channel 26

10 ALVISO WATER
TASKFORCE MEETING
Occurs every 2nd Tuesday
6:00PM-8:00PM
Alviso Branch Library
Community Room
5050 North First Street

15 NVCA ADOPT A PARK
Occurs every 3rd
Sunday 9:00AM-10:00AM
Northwood Elementary
School & Northwood Park
921 Fox Lane

28 DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY
OFFICE HOURS
With Councilmember Chu
10:00AM-12:00PM
Starbucks at River Oaks
670 River Oaks Parkway
Please call for an appointment.

31 CESAR CHAVEZ
HOLIDAY
City Hall Closed



Evergreen Chorus led by Mr. King of the Chinese Seniors United Association of Northern California performs at the Lunar New Year Celebration.



Councilmember Chu with former intern and scholarship recipient, Thoa Hoang, at the Vietnamese American Professional Women's Association event.



Councilmember Kansen Chu with Mayor Reed and former Vice-Mayor David Cortese at the Santa Visits Alviso Event.

Event dates are subject to change. Please contact the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to confirm events.

VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley (408) 929-9453	The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley strives to provide high quality care and rehabilitation for injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley Community. Volunteer to assist our wildlife!
Adopt A Creek Program (408) 265-2607 ext. 2945 Web: www.valleywater.org	There are more than 800 miles of streams in Santa Clara County that need cleaning. The water district works very hard year round to maintain the health of these creeks, but they can not do it alone. They need help from citizens like you who act as stewards for the cleanliness of our community and environment throughout the year.
Adopt A Park Program (408) 793-4190 Web: www.sjadoptapark.org	Adopt a Park Program's main goal is to protect and enhance San José's neighborhood parks and open spaces by ongoing volunteer support, and to educate San José residents about the importance of parks and open spaces.
Friends of the Library Program (408) 808-2181	Contact the Berryessa Library Volunteer Information regarding a wide array of volunteer opportunities!
Santa Visits Alviso Web: www.alvisosanta.com	Please visit www.alvisosanta.com or email Richard Santos at rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us for more volunteer information for the event in December.

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

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